

# The Memorial Voice

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Spring 2014

## Let's Play Ball

By: Megan Culley & Bobby DeMore

Birds are chirping, flowers are blooming, and spring sports are in full swing. Softball, baseball, lacrosse, track and field, tennis, and golf teams are all working hard to get in shape.

Baseball and softball have been two of the most popular spring sports for generations. Seven innings of excitement, from the first to the last pitch. Practicing every day, strapping up the cleats, slipping the glove on, and working as hard as possible. When you step up to the plate, look into the pitcher's eyes, and get ready to hit the ball, the excitement is always there. Hitting a home run off of any pitcher is the best feeling a ball

player can feel.

Lacrosse is the type of sport that people make look easy, but it's not just picking up a stick; you need endurance, skill, and hand-eye coordination. "If I had played for a few years, and worked hard, I feel like it would be easier to get on varsity rather than if I tried this year," said student athlete Tabby Harden.

Tennis is similar to lacrosse in the aspect of hand-eye coordination. In addition, it takes a lot of muscle memory, practice, and stamina, much like golf.

Track offers events for many different types of athletes. From the strong to the fast, track most likely

has an event that you could succeed.

"I'm a runner, but I don't really run, track isn't all about running. If you're a thrower you just warm up and the same if you're a jumper," says triple jumper, hurdler Quinteria Armstead. There are events in jumping, throwing, distance running, and sprinting. Get ready, get set...

\*BANG\*...they're off.

Spring brings a lot of competition and great fun. Come out and support the Millville Bolts this season!



## Students Visit D.C.

By: Megan Branin & Kacie Reynolds

Two hundred Memorial and Senior High School students were astonished at the sight of the U.S. Capital Building and Washington Monument after the three-hour bus ride to Washington D.C. on March 28th.

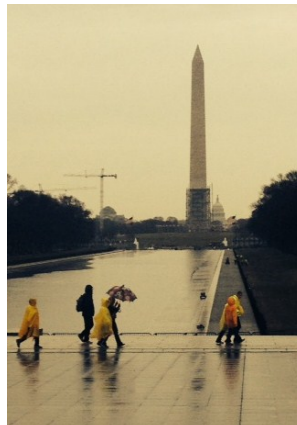
The History Department organized the school sponsored trip to our nation's capital. All students were eligible to attend but needed to provide a permission slip and ten-dollars to secure a seat on the bus.

Students visited and toured the Lincoln Memorial and National Mall, Air and Space Museum, American

History Museum, and National History Museum.

Despite the chilly, rainy weather, the trip was fun, as well as educational. For many,

this trip to Washington was a first-time experience. If you missed this trip, keep your ears open for other opportunities next year.



Students endured the chilly, rainy weather to tour the National Mall in Washington D.C. on March 28. Photos by Megan Branin.

## Gabe Hurley: A Story of Inspiration

By: Brooke Nichols

On March 25th, tenth-grade students had the opportunity to hear the story of Gabe Hurley's tragic and life changing experience. Not only did his story shock everyone in the auditorium, but they were left with a message that will stay in their minds forever.

In 2009, Gabe Hurley was enjoying life. He had a tall, blonde girlfriend, a super nice car, and he had just graduated from Rutgers University. The night before leaving for Las Vegas with a group of friends, Gabe decided to run to CVS to get some last minute essential purchases. Little did he know that this night would change his life dramatically. On the way to the drugstore, there were teenagers driving recklessly and carelessly. A 17-year-old motorist crashed into the barrier of a bridge, causing the hood of his car to open, and sending parts flying into oncoming traffic. Gabe was hit directly in the face by an air compressor from the teen's car.

That was the last bit of light Gabe Hurley saw. The injuries left him blind and requiring more than 35 hours of facial reconstructive surgery. Gabe also lost his sense of smell. Most people would let this event take over their lives, but Gabe has turned this tragedy into something positive. Now Gabe is a motivational speaker.

"I fight any bad thoughts with

things that make me happy," Gabe told the tenth-grade students.

Not only is he an inspiration, he's also one of the best guitar players this audience had ever seen. Students got to witness how Gabe can still play guitar even without his eyesight. He is in a band called The New Black. Gabe's band performs throughout the region and has opened up for some popular bands, including Papa Roach.

Gabe's message was clear. He wanted the students to understand that life isn't forever; it can go away when you least expect it, so you have to live in the moment. That wasn't his only message. The main reason for his visit was to stress the importance of safe driving.

Students need to keep in mind that their driving affects everyone around them. Not only do you need to watch your speed when you drive, but you also need to keep your passengers and fellow drivers in mind. Gabe's life was changed without him doing a single thing wrong. His story touched all of the soon-to-be licensed driver's hearts and really made them think twice about driving.

"Really inspirational! Made me tear up when I heard his girlfriend left," remarked one student.

He didn't want to scare the students or make them decide they didn't want to drive. Gabe wanted the



Hurley speaks to Memorial students about his experience and the importance of safe driving.



Hurley impresses students with his musical talents.

students to realize that things don't always turn out how they expect them to, and that driving safely not only can save your own life, but the lives of other's too.



### Regal Cinema Movie Tickets

*Makes a great gift!*

**\$8.00**

*Tickets never expire!*

**See any AVID student  
or**

**Mr. Branin, Mrs. Todd, or Mrs. Atkinson**

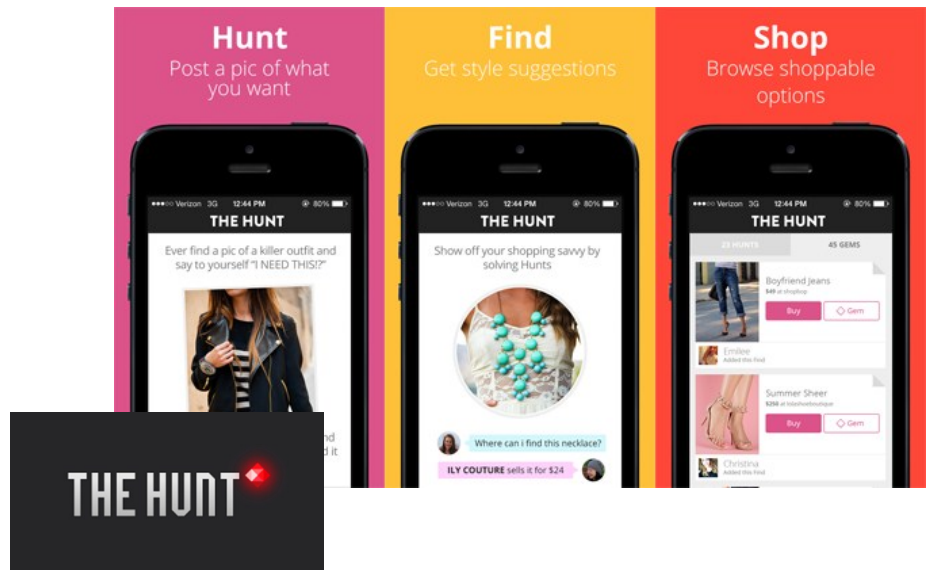


## "The Hunt"

By: Olivia Millard

Using teamwork and the art of social media, it's finally possible to find that shirt you've been looking for for months. *The Hunt* is an app for smartphones that allows people to post pictures of items they're "hunting" for. Other app users help find those items and kindly provide a link to the website so you can make your purchase.

*The Hunt* is like a mix between online shopping and a social networking, so it's ideal for the teen consumer. It works like this: you create an account using your Facebook page or email address, then follow different people based on the things they're looking for. You can find them on a newsfeed-like tab. If you see an item you're interested in, "gem" it and save it under your profile. You will then be notified if someone happens to find that item for you.



When you are the one posting a picture of something you want to find, all you do is click the "Start a Hunt" button and select or take a picture. Afterwards, you fill out some information about the item you're looking for and include some hash tags to make it easier. Under your profile tab, your hunts will be saved and you will be notified if someone

finds it.

This app is very useful and should have been invented earlier! *The Hunt* is definitely an app to be considered, it's free and with the help of fellow "hunters" around the world, you can finally locate those hard to find items.

## 2014 Yearbooks

are now on sale!



Yearbooks are ALL color and only \$25

See Mrs. Errickson in Tech Lab 2  
to place an order



## Spring Pep Rally

From staff reports

Students and staff showed school spirit at the spring pep rally held on Thursday, April 17th following a week of throw-back events. The pep rally honored the school's spring athletes and featured head-to-head competitions including relay races and "minute-to-win-it" style games with students and teachers.

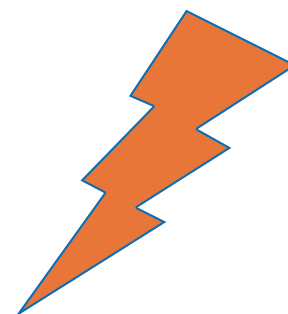
Kicking off the event was the "evolution of hip-hop dance". Teachers young and old showed their dancing skills with their performance of the running man, Dougie, make-it-rain, and hammertime. Softball, baseball, track and field,

golf, boys' tennis and girls' lacrosse players were announced and cheered on by the crowd.

The fun filled week leading up to Spring Break included various activities like 70's, 80's, and 90's fashion days, Throw-back Thursday featuring high school photos of building staff, and Penny Wars. Memorial students raised more than \$175 for the Cumberland County SPCA with the penny competition that landed sophomore girls in the top fundraising spot.

Next up on Memorial's school spirit schedule is the Third Annual Hunger Games being held on May

22, 2014. Students that have maintained their GPA and have a good attendance and behavior record will be invited to join one of twelve districts to compete in the fun-filled field day on Wheaton Field. *May the odds be ever in your favor!*



Clockwise (from top): Teachers perform the evolution of hip-hop dance; Students cheer in the stands at Wheaton Field; Students and teachers participate in a relay race; MHS Baseball team is introduced. Photos by Megan Branin and Courtney McMahon.



# Throw-Back Week at Memorial High School



80's

90's



Orange & Blue

## Textbooks vs. Tablets

By: Izanae Somerville &  
Courtney McMahon

Biology. World History. Algebra. Geometry. English. Financial Literacy. After carrying around all those textbooks, it begins to be a pain. Literally.

One ninth-grader said, "I have advanced classes, so I have a lot of books to carry around. By the time I get home, my back is in so much pain. It's too much to carry around all day especially taking it off and on."

That's a lot of weight to be on your back all day. Some students you see in the hallways are hunching over because of the weight of the books. It's not fair to students. Administrators need to start taking into consideration that students are carrying all of this weight.

Jenna Bogan, another Memorial student said, "In sixth grade my book



bag was really heavy and ever since then I've had back problems."

It might help if we had iPads or tablets to access textbooks online. It could also help students be more organized if they didn't need to jumble around paperwork and bookwork.

According to The Art Institute of Pittsburgh, "Most tablets today are manufactured with memories between 8GB and 64GB, which can hold hundreds of thousands of text-

books. Many of these gadgets also come with expanded memory capabilities, which can double their hard disk spaces. This means a single tablet is more than capable for holding all the textbooks a learner needs plus quizzes and homework."

So, instead of carry around two or three huge textbooks, students could carry one tablet that holds all of those books, quizzes, and homework. No more, "I forgot my homework at home," excuses, because now it's all electronic.

Tablets in our school would have so many benefits for both students and teachers. It's definitely a policy worth considering.

## Memorial High School presents **Spring Concert & Art Exhibit**

**Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**7pm**



**Questions or Comments?**

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